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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)

Toshihiro ENDO et al.)

Application Serial No.: 09/639,850)

Filed: August 16, 2000)

For: STENCIL PRINTER)

Art Unit: 2854

Examiner: M. Crenshaw

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 17, 2001, the following amendments and remarks are submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 1 without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend claims 2-5 as follows. Attached hereto is a marked-up copy of the claims in amended form.

2. (Amended) A stencil printer as defined in Claim 8 wherein the drive assembly is configured to stop in a position where the stress applied to the diaphragm of the diaphragm pump is not larger than 75% of the elastic limit of the diaphragm.